

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masahiro Ikeda et al.  
Serial No.: 10/806,914  
Conf. No.: 3878  
Filed: 3/23/2004  
For: A LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY PANEL  
  
Art Unit: 2871  
Examiner: Nguyen, Thanh Nhan P.

*I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.*

June 1, 2007

Date

*James K. Folker*  
Registration No. 37,538  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within any of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of First Office Action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements); or
- (c) before the mailing of a First Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continuing Examination.

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of foreign patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

Also enclosed is a copy of an English translation of an Office Action from a Japanese Application.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

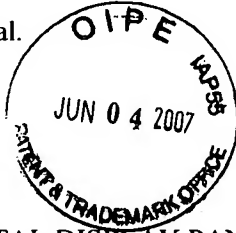
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
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By: *James K. Folker*  
James K. Folker, Reg. No. 37,538

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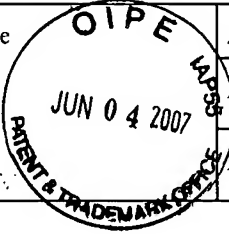
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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney Docket No.: 0941.70144 Applicant: Ikeda et al.	Serial No.: 10/806,914				
						
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)						
Filing Date: March 23, 2004		Group: 2871				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	7,050,137	May 23, 2006	HOSHINO et al.			
	2006/0125993	Jun. 15, 2006	HOSHINO et al.			
	2006/0125994	Jun. 15, 2006	HOSHINO et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
						Yes    No
	10-206867	Aug. 7, 1998	Japan			Abs.
	2003-035909	Feb. 7, 2003	Japan			Abs.
	2003-172946*	Jun. 20, 2003	Japan			Abs.
	2003-195339	Jul. 9, 2003	Japan			Abs.
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
Examiner				Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						

\* Corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 7,050,137 and U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2006/0125993 and 2006/0125994.

DOCKET NUMBER 04J00038  
ACTION NUMBER 241218  
MAILING DATE May 22, 2007

## NOTIFICATION OF GROUND OF REFUSAL

APPLICATION NUMBER 2004-090204  
DATE OF OFFICE ACTION May 17, 2007  
EXAMINER Kouji FUKUSHIMA  
ATTORNEY Yasuo YASUTOMI, et al.  
APPLIED STATUE Article 29, second paragraph

## FINAL

This application is deemed rejected based on the reasons noted below. Any comments to this action should be submitted within 60 days from the mailing date of this Notification.

## GROUND

The invention pertinent to claims identified below are deemed not patentable according to the provision of Article 29, Second paragraph of Patent Act as the invention was easily made by a person skilled in the art before the application thereof based on the inventions described in the publications below, which were distributed in Japan or in foreign countries or based on the inventions that became available to the public via electric communication line, before the application thereof

## NOTES

CLAIMS 1-16  
REFERENCES 1-4

## REMARKS

References 3 and 4 disclose the construction of forming an electrode formed of the same material as the pixel electrode in a non-display area in the same potential level as the opposing electrode. Because the manner of how to dispose this electrode is merely the matter of design choice, the invention pertinent to claims 1 - 16 of the present invention can be easily made by a person skilled in the art based on the inventions disclosed in References 1 through 4 or the technology of state of the art.

LIST OF REFERENCES

1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application 2003-195339
2. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application 10-206867
3. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application 2003-035909
4. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application 2003-172946

REASON OF FINALITY OF THIS ACTION

1. This is the Notification that notifies only the ground of rejection of which notification has become necessary as a result of the amendment filed in response to the first Notice of Ground of Refusal.